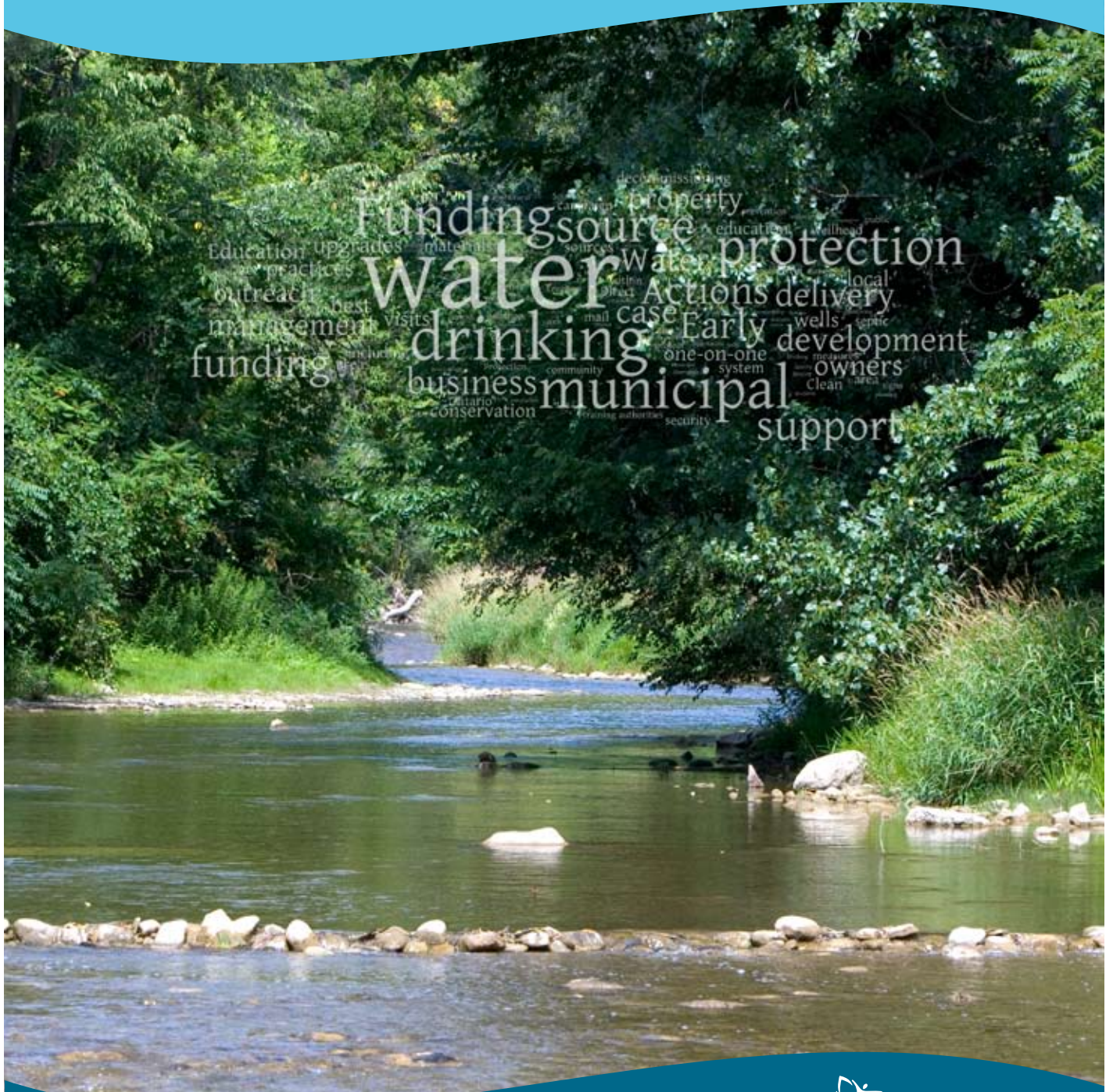


Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program

Interim Progress Report 2007-2010



Protecting our environment.



Ontario

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Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program

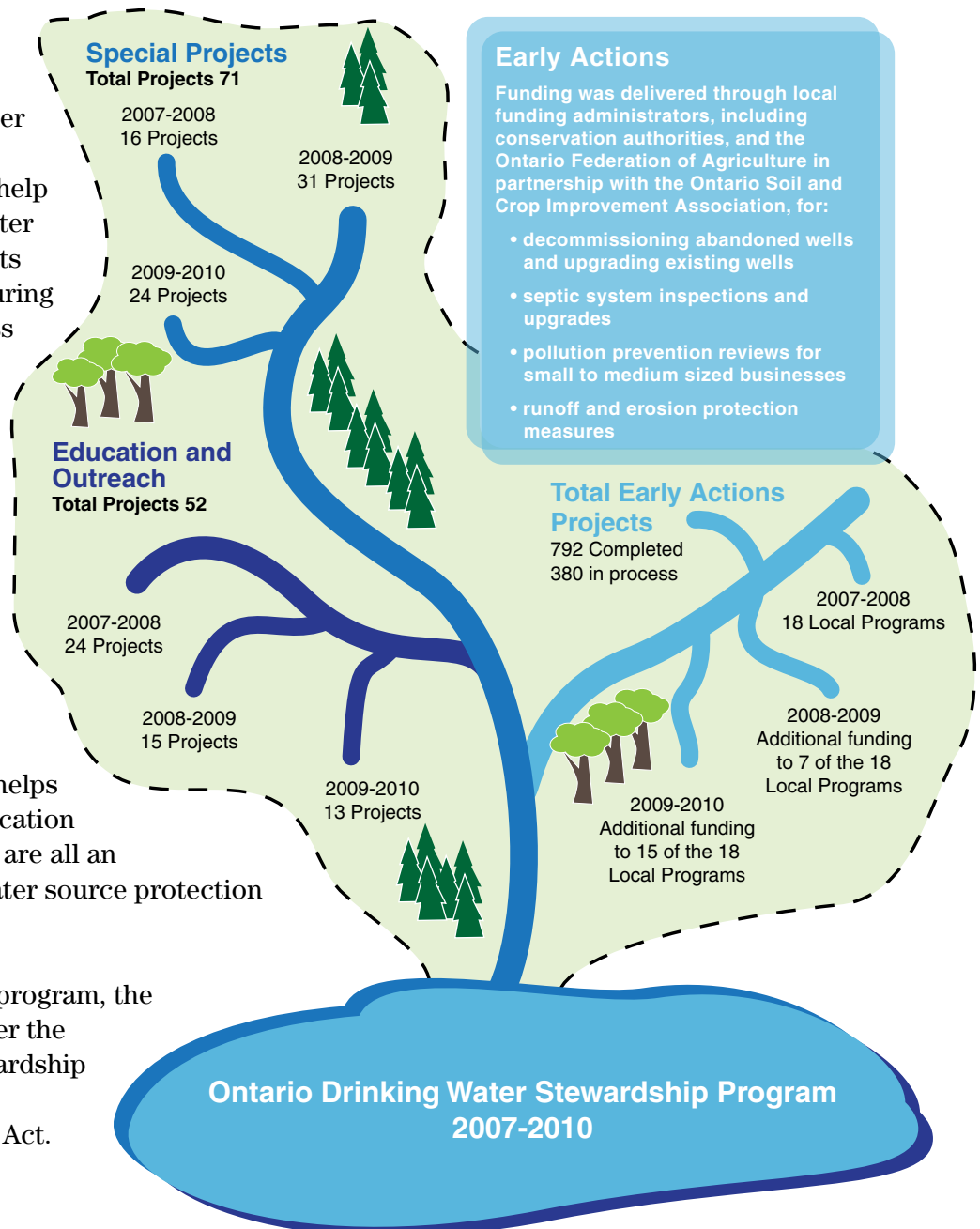
Projects funded during the first three years

The Clean Water Act enables communities to protect their drinking water supplies through prevention, by developing collaborative, locally-driven, watershed-based drinking water source protection plans founded on sound science. The Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program was established under the Act to provide financial assistance for measures that help protect Ontario's drinking water sources. Protecting water at its source is the first step in ensuring that every Ontarian has access to safe drinking water.

The Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program makes it easier for landowners and small businesses to be partners in protecting their communities' environment and public health. The program recognizes the shared responsibility of all stakeholders to protect local sources of drinking water. It helps fund local incentives and education and outreach projects, which are all an important part of drinking water source protection planning.

In the first three years of the program, the ministry funded projects under the Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program that supported the principles of the Clean Water Act.

Projects were funded in the following components: Early Actions, Special Projects, and Education and Outreach.



The three components of the Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program

Early Actions funds actions to protect drinking water sources immediately within surface water intake and wellhead protection areas. Property owners apply to and receive payment for their actions from conservation authorities or the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association (OSCIA) on behalf of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture.

Between 2007 and 2010, property owners, farmers, municipalities and small to medium sized businesses received funding for drinking water source protection measures such as:

- decommissioning abandoned wells and upgrades to existing wells
- septic system inspections and upgrades
- pollution prevention reviews, and
- runoff and erosion protection measures and additional best management practices.



Education and Outreach funds local education and outreach activities related to source protection planning.

During this period, the Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program funded projects that supported the principles of the Clean Water Act and:

- promoted best management practices for drinking water source protection in the agricultural community
- encouraged businesses and industries to develop best management practices for drinking water source protection
- developed strategies to incorporate drinking water source protection into teaching programs, and/or
- developed outreach strategies encouraging local communities to support drinking water source protection initiatives.

Special Projects funds activities that complement the Early Actions and Education and Outreach components.

Through this component, from 2007 to 2010 the ministry funded projects that supported the principles of the Clean Water Act and:

- illustrated a new or innovative approach to municipal drinking water source protection
- supported First Nations projects to protect municipal drinking water or First Nations communal drinking water sources, and/or
- protected municipal drinking water sources outside of source protection areas.



Visit www.ontario.ca/cleanwater for more information about the Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program and the Clean Water Act.

Please contact SourceProtectionFunding@ontario.ca for program details.

Early Actions Funding: Distribution of Projects as of February 2010

